The Council met at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Saturday the 25th of March 1922, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR Avargal, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., President, presiding.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No.* 15 —

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner :—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in alphabetical order, specify the serial numbers of his questions, and make a sufficient pause to allow him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Irregular procedure of the Acting Principal, Government College, Mangalore.

1387 *Q.*—Rai Sahib E. C. M. MASCARENHAS: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(1) whether the present acting Principal of the Government College, Mangalore, compelled every student of the second year University class to pay a subscription of Re. 1 each for an 'At Home' held by the Principal and the staff to meet Mrs. Sarojini Nayudu on the occasion of her visit to Mangalore to preside over the Karnataka Provincial Congress Conference;

(2) whether the Principal fined Re. 1 extra such students as did not promptly pay up the subscription, either because of their inability or because they did not participate in the 'At Home';

(3) whether the fines thus levied have been credited to the Government account;

(4) whether the Government have taken or propose to take any action in this matter;

(5) how many hours of actual class work the present acting Principal of the Government College does; and

(6) how many hours of class work his predecessors, Messrs. Malim and Krishnamma, used to take up when they were in charge of the college?

A.—Government are enquiring into the allegations contained in this interpellation.

Supply of salt to prisoners.

1388 *Q.*—Sriman SASI BHUSHANA RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the quantity of salt allowed to each prisoner in the district jails is considered sufficient;

(*b*) whether any complaints have been received regarding insufficiency of salt in the rations given to prisoners;

(*c*) whether the prisoners who have been now undergoing terms of imprisonment for picketing at abkāri sales and for similar offences in the Berhampur district jail have suffered in health owing to insufficient supply of salt; and

(*d*) when and by whom the quantity of salt to be rationed out to each prisoner was fixed?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) & (*c*) A letter signed by the hon. Member and another Member of Council containing statements among other things as to the insufficiency of salt and as to the health of some of the prisoners has been received and Government have called for a report.

(*d*) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to G.O. No. 714, Judicial, dated 17th April 1913, which has been placed on the Editors' Table.

Punitive police in certain villages of the Anantapur district.

1389 *Q.*—Mr. P. Siva Rao: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have placed punitive police over the villages of Kodavandlapalli, Marthad and Doragal villages and their hamlets in the Kadiri taluk in the Anantapur district;

(*b*) if so, for what period; what the strength is of the police and the additional expenditure involved;

(*c*) what the reasons were for taking such a step; whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table the Gazette notification ordering the same and all connected papers;

(*d*) how many villages are comprised within the area and what their total population is;

(*e*) whether the Government propose to construct a permanent additional police station with lines for the use of the punitive police; if so, what the total estimated cost of the buildings is and how much of it is proposed to be recovered from the inhabitants of the locality; and whether construction has commenced;

(*f*) whether it has been decided in what proportions and by which persons the additional cost should be borne; if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place the order relating to the same, with the reports on which it is based and all other connected papers, on the table; and

(*g*) how many crimes have been reported from the police station of Kodavandlapalli in the Kadiri taluk since the imposition of the punitive police?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) For three years from 15th July 1921. The strength of the force is 1 head constable and 20 constables and the total cost is about Rs. 5,472 per annum.

(*c*) The reason for imposing the force was the great increase of crime in the area concerned due to protracted party feuds and factions between the influential Reddis of the locality. The notification was published at page 665 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 5th July 1921.

(*d*) Three villages with a total population of 2,513.

(*e*) Certain semi-permanent buildings are necessary for the additional police at Kodavandlapalli. The cost of these, estimated at Rs. 9,168, will be recovered from the inhabitants of the three villages referred to in clause (*a*), and work on them has already commenced.